

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NISHIUCHI, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1775**

Serial No.: **10/615,381**

Examiner: **Arden B. Sperty**

Filed: **July 9, 2003**

FOR: **SURFACE TREATING PROCESS, SURFACE TREATING APPARATUS, VAPOR-DEPOSITING MATERIAL, AND RARE EARTH METAL-BASED PERMANENT MAGNET WITH SURFACE TREATED**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 27, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of a Notice of Reasons for Rejection issued in the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-117771.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



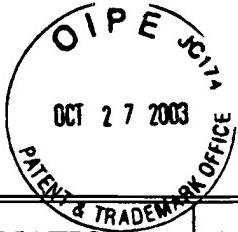
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Notice of Reasons for Rejection issued in Japanese Patent Appln. No. 2000-227772
PTO-1449
References (3)



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. 000593B	Serial No. 10/615,381
Applicant(s): NISHIUCHI, et al.		
	Filing Date: July 9, 2003	Group Art Unit: 1775

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF 60-243843	12/03/85	Japan	Abstract only
_____	AG 60-92466	5/24/85	Japan	Abstract only
_____	AH 6-158285	6/07/94	Japan	Abstract only
_____	AI			
_____	AJ			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	
_____	AL	

Examiner

Date Considered